may have under the Doctrine of Equivalents. Applicants furthermore reserve their right to reintroduce subject matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or continuing applications.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX

4. (amended) A particle-optical apparatus as claimed in claim 2 or 3, in which the final electrode (42) is symmetrically subdivided into a number of electrically isolated segments around the optical axis (4).